

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 5 and 25 will be pending in the present application following entry of the present amendment. Claim 5 has been amended as described elsewhere herein. Support for the amendment may be found in the original claims and specification as filed including, for example, on lines 10-15 of page 127 of the specification. No new matter has been added by way of amendment. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph, Should Be Withdrawn

Claims 5 and 25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph on the grounds that the phrase "a cRaf 1 inhibitor" fails to satisfy the written description requirement. In order to expedite prosecution, claim 5 has been amended to replace this phrase with the structure of the cRaf1 inhibitor GW5074. In view of this amendment, all grounds for rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph have been obviated. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103 Should be Withdrawn

Claims 5 and 25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) on the grounds that they are obvious in view of WO 99/35146 (Carter *et al.*) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,268,391 (Dickerson *et al.*). In order to expedite prosecution, claim 5 has been amended to specifically recite the structure of the cRaf1 inhibitor GW5074. It is respectfully submitted that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should not be applied to claims 5 and 25 as amended.

As noted in the Amendment dated September 24, 2007, the present application demonstrates that the particular combination of compounds recited in claims 5 and 25 as amended has unexpected results. Specifically, the inventors have found that the breast cancer cell line HB4a-ras, when treated with a combination of a compound of Formula III and the cRaf-1 inhibitor GW5074, shows vastly increased HB4a-ras cell morality in comparison with the cell mortality seen with either compound alone (see Figure 4). In addition, HB4a-ras cells treated with a combination of a compound of Formula III and the cRaf-1 inhibitor GW5074 show enhanced apoptosis in comparison with either compound alone (see Figure 5). The increased HB4a-ras cell mortality and apoptosis seen for the combination of a compound of Formula III with the cRaf-1 inhibitor BW5074 could not be

predicted *a priori* and would not be expected based on the activity of each compound used individually. Thus, the methods recited in claims 5 and 25 recite a therapeutic combination have unexpectedly beneficial results. These results are not taught or suggested by Carter *et al.* and Dean *et al.*, either alone or in combination. Accordingly, these claims are not obvious in view of the cited references.

In view of the above arguments, all grounds for rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 have been obviated. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that the current application is now in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is solicited. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite prosecution, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Applicants believe that no fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper other than those specifically authorized herein. However, should any other fees be deemed necessary to effect the timely filing of this paper the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 07-1392.

Respectfully submitted,



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